

Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sergeant Patrick Hoey

Rockford Police Department

July 25, 2011 Phone: 815-987-5041

E-mail: Patrick.Hoey@rockfordil.gov

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CELEBRATION TO HAPPEN AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup> AT OXFORD PARK!

ROCKFORD – Tuesday August 2, 2011, marks the Edgewater neighborhoods celebration of National Night Out! Local elected and appointed officials will be joined by members of the Rockford Police and Fire Departments, the Rockford Park District, and a league of volunteers from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Oxford Par for the local celebration of a national event. This event is free and open to the public.

National Night Out is a yearlong community building campaign, that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Activities include a K-9 demonstration, Bomb Squad robot demonstration, moon walk, Survive Alive House, raffles and live music from a DJ. Food and refreshments will also be provided. Rockford residents are encouraged to attend this evening of fun and food.

Chief Epperson wishes to thank the many volunteers that make this evening possible. "National Night Out, like many of our Police-Community partnerships, is possible because of the dedication of our citizens that step forward and volunteer. We would like to thank each of these people individually for their work," Chief Epperson said "In addition to the volunteer support, the National Night Out event is also sponsored by the City of Rockford, Target, the Rockford Park District, Winnebago County States Attorney's Office and Project First Rate.

Oxford Park is located at the corner of Oxford Street and Fulton Avenue. Parking is available on the surrounding side streets.